

#3

1981IP

by Ken Halpern

17 November 1981

## FLUSHING FANATICISM

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, myself and some other subjects of the land of Gucci (Great Neck) went to ByrneCon 7, an all-day DIPLOMACY marathon at the home of, of course, Kathy Byrne & John Caruso. Some of the people there were John & Kathy, Phyllis Byrne, Brian Lorber, (GN), Eric Kane (GN), Steve Brooks, Tom "Fast-Fingers" Mainardi, Dan Matthias, Dick "Crud" Martin, Konrad Baumeister, Dan/Scott Palter, Norm Schwartz, Julie Glass, Stuart Schoenberger, Victor DuPont, Brad Wilson, and the eminently forgettable Whatsisface Arnawoodian.

What, you may ask, do all these names on a page mean to you the consumer. They mean that it's gossip time!

First, let me discuss our hostess, Kathy Byrne. I could say that she is exciting and electric, like many of the other ~~xxx/xx~~ admiring people in the hobby. Come on, now. By virtue of Blueberry Whip alone, we know that Bloodsucker uses that old code of DIPLOMACY, "Where there's a will, there's a way". How about John Caruso, the suspicious "man who lives with that nice girl upstairs" (more like 'tough broad upstairs', but that's besides the point). How about John Caruso? I don't know, but he seems nice enough. Since I don't know, why don't those nice folks out there tell me through letters! What I do know is, that Whitestonia, John and Kathy's funzine, is excellent, and, in a way, reminds me of EREBOR. That is, WHITESTONIA is small and illegible, while EREBOR is large and illegible. Seriously, though, I would recommend WHITESTONIA to anybody - if you are you are interested, write to John Caruso, 160-02 43rd Ave. 2nd Fl., Flushing, N.Y., 11358. Anyway, back to ByrneCon. Most of the day was spent in the play of DIPLOMACY. However, there were other things going on. For one, Kathy and Whatsisface wrote an article on how boring Konrad Baumeister is. Boring? Obsessed is a better word. Konrad is the only guy in the hobby who puts out a Rockzine. I mean you can just picture Konrad sitting at the typewriter, with the stereo blasting, shaking his booty, pounding out the incoherency. I will not even be slightly surprised if he is the inventor of "The Stones Variant". If not that, then the "Female Anatomy Variant". Have you seen that guy's 'zine lately?! Let me pause for a moment now, and explain why I refer to Whatsisface as such. It seemed that Arnasomething-or-other made enough references to ethnicity, while I was ~~there~~, to have Archie Bunker complaining to the ACLU. As a result, I assumed that he had no identity himself. I don't really think he's forgettable, though. I mean, he can show you some of the strangest pictures of Brux Linsey in, er, unusual positions. I wonder how he gets them? Anyway, we also met Dick "Crud" Martin for the first time. I have always thought that the reason people called him 'Crud' was because he was an exceptionally untrustworthy DIPLOMACY player. This is not the case though. Actually, in one game he was in with Eric, Dick stuck with him the entire game, and they drew at the end. The catch is that Dick gave poor Eric so many stab scares, that Kane had an ulcer by the end of the game. I might have thought that Eric was just being paranoid, except that whenever Eric asked Dick to do a move for their cause, he would respond with something like, "Maybe I will, and maybe I won't!". Dick's 'zine, RAMELATION, would be more deserving of its professed name of RETALIATION, if it were ten to twenty pages (which would be interesting), instead of thirty to forty pages (which is mental cruelty). (Cont. p. 2)

## FLUSHING FANATICISM CONT.

...(cont. from page 1) I also met Dan Palter in person for the first time. In fact, I played in one or two games with Dan. If he started talking to me in 'yup's and 'nope's, I would have decked him. Another interesting individual at ByrneCon was Dan Matthias. Dan came across as an excellent DIP player, probably because he was the only person there who could take FTF games seriously. Mr. Matthias also participated in a 'Hobbit Game' tournament with Steve Brooks, Eric Kane, & Brian Lorber. Dan won the tournament, but what really amazed me was the fact that the four Hobbits raced across Middle Earth in little plastic CARS! (Obviously one of Milton Bradley's finest folks). Then again, this phenomenon may be explained by young Frank Byrne's excited exclamation of, "I'll kill Phyllis if she took my cars!". By the way, popular opinion forces me to mention that Steve took last place in the tournament, making him the worst little Hobbit there. Stuart Schoenberger, a friend of Kathy and John's, was also there. Alas, poor Stuart, I think he was constipated the entire time we were there. Well, since I want to wrap this up, let me just quickly say that Tom Mainardi had as much energy as a school full of hyperactive kindergartners, Julie Glass has as much tact as a rabid brontosaurus, Brad Wilson is permanently drunk, and could use a course in Remedial Humility, and Victor DuPont looks like he is plotting to take over the world with the super, top secret Zappo Rays he invented. Oops! I forgot Ol' Norm Schwartz! Ah, who cares?

In all honesty though, I'm just kidding around. Everybody there is really, really nice, and we are all very grateful that they made us newcomers feel welcome. RETALIATION, GIVE ME A WEAPON, COAT OF ARMS, and all these other 'zines are excellent, and I recommend them all. However, I don't feel like looking up and typing all those addresses, so if you're interested, you can just send your sample request or subscription to me, and I'll send it to the 'zines pubber unopened. (Of course, if you don't want it opened, please say so somewhere on the envelope, so I'll know not to). Anyway, we all had a great time, and we will be sure to be at the next ByrneCon, whenever it is.

\* \* \* \* \*

1981IP

LA FRANCE EST TRES MALADE

Spring 1901

ENGLAND: FEdi-Nrg; FLon-Nth; ALpl-Edi.

FRANCE: No Moves Received; APAr, AMar, and EBrE hold.

GERMANY: ABer-Kie; AMun-Ruh; FKie-Den.

RUSSIA: AMos-Ukr; AWar-Gal; FSev-Rum; FSt.P(s.c.)-~~Fin~~Fin.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY: AVie-Gal; ABud-S-AVie-Gal; FTri-Alb.

ITALY: AVen-Pie; ARom-Ven; FNap-Ion.

TURKEY: ACon-Bul; ASmy-Ank; FAnk-Con.

Player

Michael Quirk

Mike McMillie

Kevin Knight

Kathy Byrne

Eric Ozog

Dan Palter

Glenn Nadaner

If a move is underlined, it failed. The deadline for Fall 1901 moves is 6:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time, Friday, November 27, 1981. In the last issue, when I printed the addresses and phone numbers of the game's players, I accidentally put in my phone number for Glenn's. (cont. p.3)

...(cont. from p.2) Glenn Nadaner's phone number is actually (516)-487-1453.

LONDON to PARIS & BERLIN: Let's keep the peace.

LONDON to VIENNA & ROME: Good luck against Turkey & Russia.

LONDON to MOSCOW & ANKARA: Good luck against Italy & Austria.

RUSSIA—AUSTRIA: Your demands are unreasonable, but that's easy to understand, as you're unreasonable! You're right, however, I am "deadly" poison—to my enemies. You are wrong when you say I can't keep an alliance past one season - watch and you shall see!

RUSSIA-ENGLAND: It was so nice to receive a letter from a normal person, instead of the demented Austrian!

RUSSIA-TURKEY: It's up to you, I did exactly as stated. Your moves will make or break us.

RUSSIA-GM: Could you try and keep phone numbers straight? I mean, your mother is real nice, but I really don't think she appreciated me calling her Glenn!

(Recycled Ozog Press) GALICIA: Eric Ozog growled softly to himself while watching his soldiers digging a trench. Without the promised Italian cooperation, this was going to be a long war.

A messenger approached him, "My Lord. We have received word from the English ambassador that Nadaner will be opening fire on Her Worship this year. It is rare when England and Turkey have a rapport."

Eric glared. "Who fed you that garbage? Clod! get out of here and get me some real info! Nobody's telling me anything beyond, Well, high there."

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#### O-RONDAR-IN-EREBOR

EREBOR is a postal fanzine, devoted to the postal play of Allan B. Calhamer's DIPLOMACY, published by The Avalon-Hill Game Co. E is published monthly by Ken Halpern, 11 Bellingham La., Great Neck, N.Y., 11023. ((516-)466-9624). Gamefees for all games in EREBOR are \$2.00 plus \$5.00 per every ten issues of a player's subscription while the game lasts. EREBOR will run almost any game the gamesmaster knows, which can reasonably be played postally. These include DIPLOMACY, KINGMAKER, MACHIAVELLI, THIRD REICH, PANZER BLITZ/LEADER, YOUNGSTOWN DIPLOMACY, other DIPLOMACY variants, and even something like MONOPOLY. If you are interested in playing any game in EREBOR, just write and let me know. I will make a definite effort to get that game started as soon as possible. Gamefees for games other than the first three mentioned may be paid upon the start of the game, rather than in advance. As of now, the following people have signed up for games other than DIPLOMACY:

PANZER BLITZ:

George Budd  
32 Allenwood Rd.  
Great Neck, N.Y.  
11023

MACHIAVELLI:

Dan Palter  
c/o Bucci Imports, #100  
123 Grove Ave.  
Cedarhurst, N.Y.  
11516

Some question has arisen as to the origins of certain names and phrases used in this 'zine. Firstly, EREBOR itself means "single-mountain" in J.R.R. Tolkien's Sindarin Elvish. (cont. on p. 4)

## O-RONDAR-IN-EREBOR-CONT.

...(cont. from page 3) O-RONDAR-IN-EREBOR means 'from the caverns of Erebor' in the same language. Secondly, 'Tinco', which was the name of my first game before it got its Boardman Number, is the first letter of the Elvish alphabet. The second game would be called Game Parma, after the second Elvish letter, and so on.

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## BOGUS OZOG

In Eric Ozog's DIPLOMACY BY MOONLIGHT #34, he accused myself, Eric Kane (publisher of ANDUIN), and Brian Lorber (my former partner) of being pseudonyms of John Boardman (publisher of GRAUSTARK), and toadies of Kathy Byrne and John Caruso (publishers of WHITESTONIA). He also made some other moronic allegations pointed at Dan Palter and numerous others in the hobby. The reasoning behind his accusals is that we are pseudonyms because we thanked Dr. Boardman profusely for his help getting us started as publishers, and toadies because John Boardman is friends with Kathy Byrne & co. Ozog did concede, however, that there must be some legitimacy to my existence, as I sent him a valid check. May I pose one small, insignificant challenge to your impeccable logic, Mr. Ozog? What the heck purpose would John Boardman serve for himself by making up pseudonyms of four teenagers from Great Neck!?!? Firstly, he doesn't even play postal DIPLOMACY anymore, so it won't afford him the ability to take two positions in the same game. Secondly, it wouldn't help him get more support in the hobby, because no one will give much credence to the opinions of a few novices, over the experienced members of the hobby. I can tell you what purpose it would serve, you stupid asshole!! None whatsoever!! The only end your f'n awful 'zine serves, Bozog, is to hurt others in the hobby. The reason I liked it so much when I saw number 33, was because it was mostly humorous prose, and not 100% libelous shit! Whatsmore, the only reason I didn't immediately cancel my subscription to your pooper-scooper publication after seeing #34, was that I always wanted to be up on your latest lies. By the way, readers, I am happy to report that DBM received a big, fat ZERO (0) in the Leader 'Zine Poll, while our very favorite scrotum-licking Mr. Ozog received a 3.67 (out of 10) for GMs. It's just a crying shame that someone didn't give you the same warm welcome to the hobby when you first started publishing, you viper! How interesting-while this was being written a few moments ago, I received a phone call from Eric Kane to the effect that one of Osmog's closest friends in the hobby had been told by the malcontent himself that his charges against us were "all in fun". All in fun or not, Eric Ozog, there will be many who will see that issue, unaware of your intentions, and will simply judge us by the information therein. You have permanently blemished our names in this hobby, and have displayed the same complete lack of ethics and judgment that you showed when you, as GM, cheated to give one player in your game, victory over another. Now that YOU have been exposed, Eric Ozog, let's just say that everything I said is also "in fun".

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## LATE-BREAKING ORDERS

A couple of days ago, after the deadline and printing up of the orders for 1981IP, I received the orders of the French player, Mike McMillie. Being as Mike is in the armed forces, and their mail is even slower than ours (I realize that such an idea borders on surreality, but it's true), I have decided to let him off the hook, and allow his orders

...(cont. from page 4) to be adjudicated with the others. Therefore, the "all hold" adjudication on on page 2 is overridden by: APAr-Bur, AMar-S-APAr-Bur, FBre-Mid.

As for French prees:

PARIS to ALL: (from SMYRNA): Guess where the Frenchman is for 8 weeks? I'll try to keep writing (or just plain write as in the case of Ruecia & Turkey). I'll think of you all when I eat my Shieh-kebope, Adana-kebope, and Ba-Clava. Wow, even as you read this, I will have been there for two weeks (making it 14 weeks in the last fourteen months). Take care, all! I hope the Turkey Trots don't hit me again...

PARIS to ROME: Terms Accepted as stated!

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SORRY, FRED

I must apologize. I have wronged two people who have treated me more than nicely in the hobby. Last issue, I printed a letter from Fred Davie. There were parts near the end of the letter, which were insulting to Fred's on-and-off enemy, Robert Sacks. Fred made no specification as to whether or not the letter was for printing, and I unintelligently printed it up. Needless to say, Fred did not want those parts of the letter publicized, as he and Mr. Sacks have gotten along relatively much better lately, and it was very embarrassing for both of us. Fortunately, Robert took it very well, and wrote me a not-so-angry, rather low-keyed letter that basically said that he was not interested in perpetuating the feud, so he would not do anything about it. I will not print the letter as it would serve no productive purpose at all, and I wish to apologize sincerely to both ~~men~~ involved. This will not happen again.

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WALKIE TALKIE

I have received the following letter from Rod Walker, as well as the okay to publish it. Being as it has Rod's side of the story (which is not necessarily my side of the story), which no one around here seems to be willing to give a chance to, and is not too personal, I have decided to publish it. I hope it doesn't create more problems than there already are (I doubt it will) between Rod and Robert. I, for one, will be sending my openings to Mr. Sacke and Mr. Walker both, until I can get more information on the practices of Don Del Grande, especially in that particular instance. The letter:

Dear Ken:

Thanks for your letter of 22 October. My position on the KGO matter is detailed in ZIMIAMVIA 4, which should have been enclosed with the update form you received. There is not much I can add to that statement.

However, in brief, the KGO list is nothing more than DIPLOMACY WORLD's long-standing "Need-a-Game" list, which he was made editor of by Jerry Jones. He was removed from that position for delisting Don Del Grande without any proper investigation to determine if any significant wrongdoing was involved, without informing Don he was doing so, and without even discussing the nature of the charges with Don. Considering his gross violation of Del Grande's rights in this matter, his insistence that he (Sacke) has any rights is laughable.

By the same token, since he is going to use the "KGO" title, and maintain a list, the resulting confusion should be minimized. Therefore, as noted in ZIMIAMVIA 5, enclosed (cont. next page)

## WALKIE TALKIE CONT.

...(cont. from page 5), I will be using a different name for D.W.'s list of game openings. Be that as it may, DIPLOMACY WORLD will resume the independent compilation and publication of game openings, just as we did under Walt Buchanan and Conrad Von Metzke.

I am urging all GMS to keep current in both lists. I don't know what purpose will be served by listing with Sacks, since the novice pipeline is served by our list. However, perhaps he has some coverage that we don't. It won't hurt to stay current with him as well. I doubt he will send us a copy of his listing, although he will continue to receive ours so long as he is mentioned in it.

If Sacks sends you a copy of his list, and you wish to send it on to me, I would like to see it, just as a double-check on the info we have. If he threatens people who update with our list with reprisals, I definitely would like to know about that. Bob may declare that there is only room in the hobby for one such list. Ordinarily I would agree. But what we have at the moment is an honest list (ours) and one of questionable integrity (his).

Combining these two lists back into a single one is possible, but only if Sacks agrees to certain minimum conditions. First, he must accept DW's proprietary interest in the game openings list. Second, he must provide adequate guarantees against any repetition of his arbitrary and discriminatory action against Del Grande. Third, he must cease putting political editorials and commentary in the list.

It has been my experience over the years, that Sacks will not cooperate with, nor provide information to, people who oppose his schemes. intricate political schemes. I am therefore disinclined to put myself in a position where I will have to be involved with him. I therefore regard the conditions above as absolutely minimal (and I have others which might be negotiable) and I will not compromise them.

Anyone who wishes to mediate the situation is welcome to try. My own preference is to make any resolution of this problem part of a general resolution of numerous grievances I have regarding Sacks, including his long-standing refusal to provide information repeatedly requested by NAVB. Under no circumstances will I enter into direct communication with him; I have for the last time endured the frustrations of evasive, crabbed, rude, and imperious little notes full of self-serving distortions of fact and outright lies. Frankly, if I never hear from Sacks again, I will be content. I have tried to work with him for years, something his methods and attitude have rendered fruitless and ultimately impossible. I would have gladly maintained the KGO/DW connection if Sacks had not blatantly continued to use it as a political soapbox despite objections and had he not removed a name from the list on the basis of charges he had not even communicated to the 'accused', much less investigated and substantiated.

Best, Rod

P.S.--OK to publish this.

That is Rod's letter, in it's entirety. Since I have decided to take the judicious suggestion of Kathy Byrne, and comment after, rather than during, a letter, I will offer my commentary now. First of all, whether or not Rod's terms are fair (personally, I'm not going to involve myself with this stuff), I am sure that Robert Sacks (or anyone else) would find the acceptance unconditionally, of those terms, humiliating and degrading, especially the way they are phrased. I would suggest, Robert and Rod, that since you are both civilized adults, you two should at least resolve your dispute in a civilized and dignifying manner.

## MIDDLE EARTH TA VARIANT

In keeping with my policy of presenting my readers with a new variant every issue, I am here publishing my Middle Earth Variant. The reason it is called Middle Earth "TA" is because the powers represented here are strictly from Tolkien's Third Age, unlike in Lew Pulsipher's Middle Earth VII and VIII variants. The reason I have chosen Middle Earth as my subject is that I was very disappointed with the designs currently on the market. This is not to demean the quality of Lew's designs, it's just that I am a perfectionist as far as Middle Earth history is concerned (although, needless to say, my design is not historically perfect either), and I couldn't stand that the only options combined First Age, Second Age, and Third Age powers. Well, anyway, here is the variant:

## Equipment Changes:

The board of course! Use the Middle Earth map given on the opposite side of this page. I would suggest that you reproduce it on a larger surface, of course,.

## Rules: Changes:

CONVOYS: Regular convoy rules may be used, however, the Army/Fleet piggy-back rule is suggested.

SUPPORTS: Regular support rules are also applicable to this variant, but you might find that the 'supported-support-cannot-be-cut' rule works better. That is, a support is only cut if it is attacked with equal or greater strength.

OTHERS: None, except with regard to supply center control, as noted below.

## HOME CENTERS AND POWERS:

LINDON: A Far Downs, one fleet and one army between Grey Havens and Eryn Vorn.

HOBBITON: A Hobbiton, A Bree, A Old Forest

SARUMAN: A Tharbad, A Dunland, A Isengard

ROHAN: F Lond Daer, A Helm's Deep, A East Emnet

GONDOR: F Dol Amroth, A Lamedon, choice Minas Tirith and Pelargir

HARAD: F Umbar, A Far Harad, A Khand

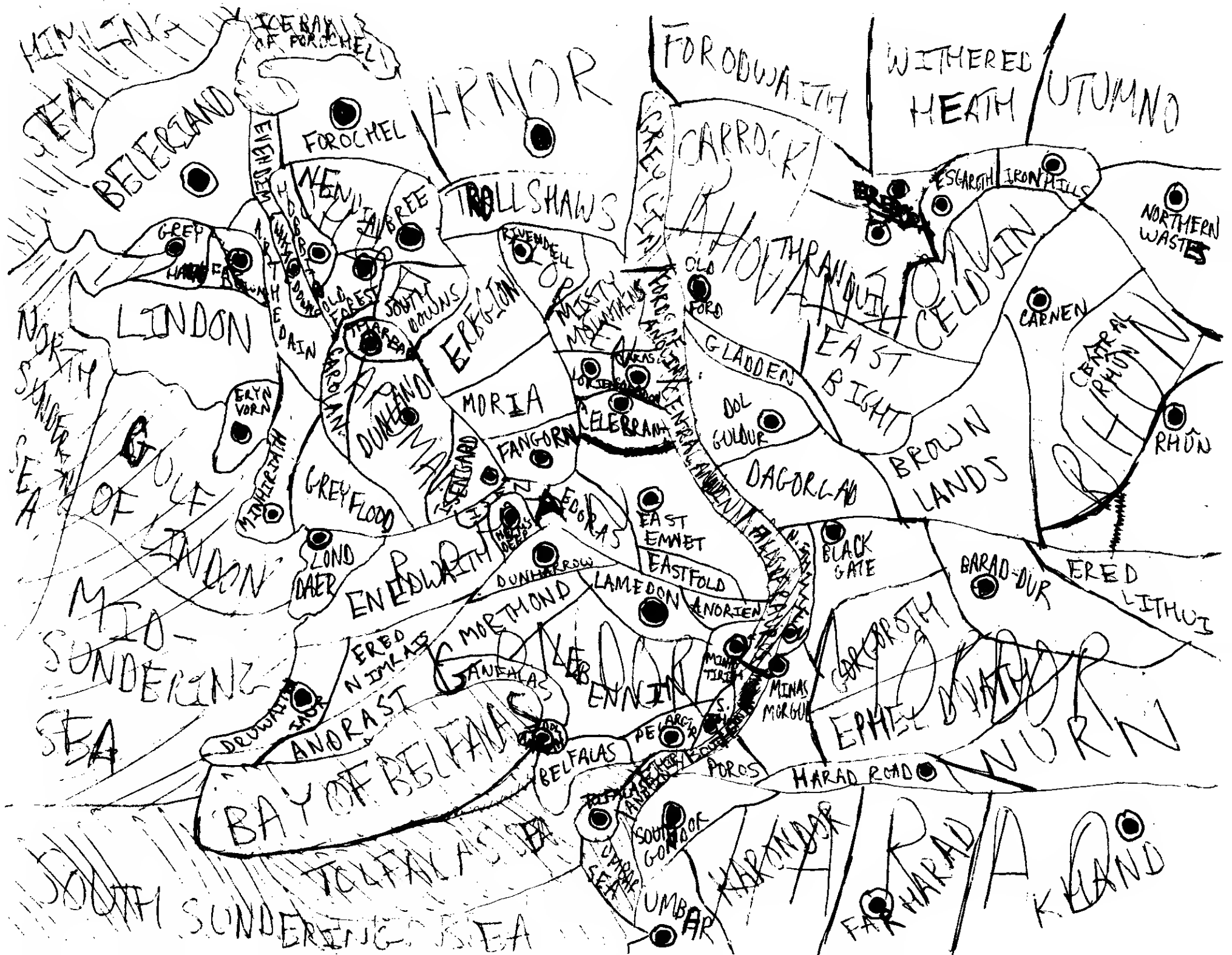
MORDOR: A Minas Morgul-choice, A Black Gate, A Barad-Dur

RHUN: A Rhun, A Carnen, A Northern Wastes

RHOVANION: F Old Ford, A Erebor, A Thranduil

LOTHLORIEN: A Rivendell, A Lorien, F Caras Galadon

In addition, the following centers may be used to build in once owned by the specified powers: Lindon: Minhiriath, Beleriand; Hobbiton: Forochel, White Downs; Saruman: Fangorn, Minhiriath; Rohan: Fangorn, Druwaith Iaur, Celebrant; Gondor: Dunharrow, S. Ithilien, Tolfalas, Druwaith Iaur; Harad: South Gondor, Harad Road, Tolfalas; Mordor: N. Ithilien, Dol Guldur, Harad Road; Rhun: Iron Hills, Esgaroth, Dol Guldur; Rhovanion: Dol Guldur, Esgaroth, Iron Hills, Arnor; Lothlorien: Celebrant, Fangorn, Dol Guldur, Arnor. Finally, a power may build in the home centers of another power if that power is eliminated, and all of its original home centers are controlled by the power that wishes to build there. A power may never build in another power's "bonus" building centers.





PARENTAL DISCRETION ADVISED!!! IF YOU OFFEND EASILY, SKIP THIS ARTICLE!!!  
LASCIVIOUS LIMERICKS

While reading my GRAUSTARK, I came across a rather raunchy limerick, regarding the sexual organ of a young man from Shinnecock, which GRAUSTARK describes as "near Great Neck". This brought to mind an infusion of thought which resulted in the following four off-beat limericks about hobby members. Of course, these are not to be taken seriously:

John Boardman: There was an old fellow from Flatbush,  
Who was very well known for his fat tush.  
While giving it anally,  
His wife said quite painfully,  
"I'm smothering, dear, in all of that mush!"

Kathy Byrne: In Flushing, I met this gal, "Bloodsucker",  
Who was known to be quite a bucker.  
She gets out of her slip,  
Into Blueberry Whip,  
While Uncle Pearson gets ready to f--k her.

John Caruso: In Italy, the family Caruso,  
Was, by the mob, made good use o'.  
So they went to fredonia,  
To publish Whitestonia,  
And will ever continue to do so.

Dick Martin: A general Dip hobby poll,  
Reveals "Crud" as Dick Martin's role.  
This is further supported,  
By his home state, purported,  
To be the crud in the deep Southern bowl.

Seriously though, I have nothing against Maryland. In fact, my favorite baseball team is the Baltimore Orioles, who, I am proud to say, I have rooted for, for almost half my life.

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EREBOR QUIZ #3

Yes, it's my third quiz in three issues (actually my 4th if you count Rod Walker's quiz from last issue). This is gonna be one of those toughies that noone will want to answer, so to provide incentive for those types who've cornered the market on mirrors, if you win, besides five issues added on to your sub free, you will also have your name printed on every page of the next issue (G A S P ! ! !). The deadline for this quiz is Saturday, December 12, 1981.

1. There are several words in the English language which have multiple meanings, some as much as 150. I will give several words, and whichever entrant can give me the most meanings for each word will get 3 points for that word. The words are:

a. matter  
b. run  
c. do  
d. go  
e. for  
f. off

g. on  
h. of  
i. in  
j. at  
k. to  
l. read

(cont. next page)

## EREBOR QUIZ #3 (CONT.)

2. Despite what the layman may think, 15 (to my knowledge) of our current English 26 letters, represented various Roman Numerals. Some numbers had more than one letter representing them. Whoever submits answers to this question will receive 1 point each for letters representing 1, 5, 10, 50, 100, 500, and 1000, and 2 points for letters standing for other numbers.

By the way, I would suggest writing down the source of your information for answers to both questions, because if I can't find information to corroborate your answer(s), I will not give credit for it(them). The second and third place finishers each will receive 2 free issues.

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## UPDATES, PROMISES

This issue was originally slated to come out on November 1<sup>st</sup>. However, my friend Eric Kane (pubber of ANDUIN, 109 Hicks Lane, Great Neck, N.Y., 11023) convinced me to publish on the 15th of the month from now on, as it will save printing costs. Some of the information in this issue may be dated, so I'll tell you that the pages being typed for the 17th (the day this issue is to be mailed out, as the 15th is a Sunday) are pages 9 and 10. Now a promise, since my issues have been running late:

FROM NOW ON ANY  
ISSUES WHICH DO NOT COME  
OUT ON THE DAY FOR WHICH THEY  
ARE SCHEDULED TO COME OUT WILL NOT  
COUNT AGAINST ANYONE'S SUBSCRIPTION!!

Also, I have five players signed up for a second game, and this issue is being published to send to sample requesters, so, with any luck, I should be able to start a game or two next issue.

THIS IS BEING INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.

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EREBOR #3  
Ken Halpern  
11 Bellingham La.  
Great Neck, N.Y., 11023  
U. S. A.

FIRST CLASS MAIL



☐ Sample  
☒ Trade  
☐ Complimentary  
☐ Please Plug  
If You Have 'Zine  
☐ Sub Ends w/#  
☐ See Page #

ROO WALKER  
1273 CREST DR.  
ENCINITAS, CA  
92024